



32692

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent  
Case No.: 53934US0101651  
RECEIVED

OCT 29 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

First Named Inventor: FOLTZ, WILLIAM E.

Application No.: 10/014736

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filed: December 11, 2001

Examiner: Ralph J. Gitomer

Title: STERILIZATION INDICATOR WITH CHEMICALLY  
STABILIZED ENZYMERESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENTCommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Oct. 22, 2003

Date

Signed by: Carrie M. Arcand

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed October 6, 2003. Claims 1-88 are pending. Claims 1-88 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-15, 43-56 are said to be drawn to a sterilization indicator with biological and chemical components, classified in class 435, subclass 287.6;
- II. Claims 16-27 are said to be drawn to an indicator with a container, classified in class 435, subclass 287.6;
- III. Claims 28-42, 86, 88 are said to be drawn to a method for testing sterilization, classified in class 435, subclass 288.5;
- IV. Claims 71-98, 57-84 are said to be drawn to a lumen challenge test pack with a tray, classified in class 435, subclass 188.
- V. Claims 85, 87 are said to be drawn to a method for stabilizing enzymes, classified in class 435, subclass 188.

Election

In response, Applicants elect Group II, claims 16-27, without traverse.

Conclusion

Applicants have elected Group II, claims 16-27 without traverse. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Oct. 22, 2003  
Date

By: Daniel R. Pastirik  
Daniel R. Pastirik, Reg. No.: 33,025  
Telephone No.: (651) 737-2685

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833